

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

March 18, 2008

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, was held in the Council Chambers and called to order by Mayor Ken Olson at 6:30 p.m. on March 18, 2008.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:	Emelie Eaton	Doug Poehls
	Kate Hart	Mark Mace
	Gay Easton	Chuck Dickerson
		Norm Stamper

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Alex Wilkins

OTHER STAFF PRESENT:	Mary Embleton	James Caniglia
	Sam Painter	Bill Sheridan

Mayor Olson led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

Mayor Olson asked the council to observe a moment of silence.

MINUTES:

Motion by Council Member Easton to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 4, 2008, as presented, seconded by Council Member Eaton. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Cable Montana: Service Reports for January 2008

Lynn Zanto, Montana Department of Transportation: Letter regarding Urban Funding Balance.

Engineering, Inc.: Letter of February 27, 2008 regarding new landscape architecture group.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

CONSENT ITEMS:

- **Clerk/Treasurer Financial Statements for the month of February 2008.**
- **Approval of Payroll Register for PPE 03/09/2008 totaling \$141,322.14.**
- **Receiving the Committee Reports into the Record.**

--Budget/Finance Committee minutes of March 4, 2008 were presented.

--Tree Board minutes of March 6, 2008 were presented.

--Park Board minutes of March 6, 2008 were presented.

--City-County Planning Board minutes of March 6, 2008 were presented.

--Council Workshop minutes of March 11, 2008 were presented.

--Laurel Airport Authority minutes of January 22, 2008 were presented.

The mayor asked if there was any separation of consent items. There was none.

Motion by Council Member Mace to approve the consent items as presented, seconded by Council Member Poehls. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

CEREMONIAL CALENDAR: None.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: None.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (THREE-MINUTE LIMIT): None.

SCHEDULED MATTERS:

- **Confirmation of Appointments.**

Fire Hall Task Force:

Mayor Olson appointed Doug Poehls, Chairman, Gay Easton, Fire Chief Scott Wilm and Public Works Director Bill Sheridan to the Fire Hall Task Force.

Motion by Council Member Stamper to approve the Mayor's appointments of Doug Poehls, Chairman, Gay Easton, Fire Chief Scott Wilm and Public Works Director Bill Sheridan to the Fire Hall Task Force, seconded by Council Member Mace. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

- Ordinance No. O08-03: An ordinance amending the zoning map of the City of Laurel, Montana, extending the boundaries of the Central Business District. Second reading.

Motion by Council Member Eaton to adopt Ordinance No. O08-03, seconded by Council Member Hart. There was no public comment or council discussion. A roll call vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

- **Resolution No. R08-23: A resolution of the City Council authorizing the Mayor to sign a Warranty Deed transferring ownership of land to Yellowstone County for the Veterans' Cemetery.**

Motion by Council Member Dickerson to approve Resolution No. R08-23, seconded by Council Member Stamper. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

- **Resolution No. R08-24: A resolution creating a Capital Projects Fund for the purpose of making capital improvements to the veterans' section of the Laurel Cemetery.**

Motion by Council Member Hart to approve Resolution No. R08-24, seconded by Council Member Eaton. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA: None.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS (ONE-MINUTE LIMIT): None.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

Council Member Poehls stated that the Emergency Services Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 24th, at 5:30 p.m. The committee will discuss the mutual aid contract with Cenex and the fire hall possibilities.

Council Member Eaton attended the Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board meeting today. Because the mill levy to increase planning department funding did not pass, certain aspects of the budget were revamped. In the Board's budget, the biggest change was in the consulting budget. Kevin Kooistra-Manning, of the Western Heritage Center, was previously paid \$12,000 a year to be a consultant for the Board, and that amount was reduced to \$8,000. The City of Laurel will be asked to contribute \$469 to the budget. Council Member Eaton asked when the council would like a

presentation from the Historic Board. Mayor Olson stated that a presentation could be put on the council workshop agenda for March 25th.

Council Member Eaton stated that the budget also reflects the revamped goals of the Board, which includes more board participation instead of tasks for the consultant. She stated that Kevin Kooistra-Manning would like to make a presentation on “Railroads and How They Help Shape Your Community” on July 3rd and as part of the Centennial Celebration on August 8th or 9th. She requested the council’s advice on whether or not this would be a productive presentation, if it would be received well enough for presentation in both July and August, and the best location for the presentation. There was discussion. Mayor Olson stated that the Centennial Committee might be able to provide some input on this and asked the council to extend that opportunity to the committee.

Council Member Eaton stated that she previously asked legal counsel to draft a change in the city’s ordinance to provide time for the Historic Preservation Board to photograph old buildings prior to demolition. She stated that the process was delayed following discussions regarding the verbose wording in the ordinance for the Historic Preservation Board. Billings has significantly reduced the wording in its ordinance, and she suggested that this would be an opportunity for Laurel to do so also.

Sam stated that the language was prepared, the council did not act on it, and he will bring it forward for the council’s consideration. Mayor Olson stated that the item would be on the March 25th council workshop agenda.

Mayor Olson stated that the All Class Reunion will have a special speaker on July 5th and there could be interest in allowing Kevin Kooistra-Manning an opportunity to speak at that time.

Council Member Dickerson stated that the next Centennial Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 19th, at 7:00 p.m. in the council chambers.

UNSCHEDULED MATTERS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Council Member Poehls to adjourn the council meeting, seconded by Council Member Mace. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

There being no further business to come before the council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Cindy Allen, Secretary

Approved by the Mayor and passed by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, this 1st day of April, 2008.

Kenneth E. Olson, Jr., Mayor

Attest:

Mary K. Embleton, Clerk-Treasurer